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providing a primary recognizer for converting chirographs to shape indexes, the primary recognizer providing output including a shape index when a chirograph is input thereto;

providing a plurality of secondary recognizers to convert chirographs into code points, and associating the secondary recognizers with at least some of the shape indexes;

receiving a chirograph;

providing the chirograph to the primary recognizer and receiving a shape index therefrom;

determining whether one of the secondary recognizers is associated with the shape index, and if so, selecting that secondary recognizer as a selected secondary recognizer; and

passing the chirograph to the selected secondary recognizer, the secondary recognizer returning a code point from the secondary recognizer, the code point returned by the secondary recognizer determined independent of the output of the primary recognizer.

B2 836 F1 75. (Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein training the secondary recognizers further comprises determining a plurality of distinguishing features of chirographs based on predetermined criteria.

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6. (Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the predetermined criteria correspond to questions, and wherein training the secondary recognizers further comprises determining a question ordering by measuring the quality of each question.

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11. (Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein training the secondary recognizer further comprises determining a plurality of distinguishing features of chirographs based on predetermined criteria.

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13. (Amended) A system for recognizing chirographs input into a computing device, comprising:

a primary recognizer configured to determine a shape index from a chirograph;

a plurality of secondary recognizers, each secondary recognizer corresponding to a shape index;

an interface configured to receive a chirograph and provide it to the primary recognizer, the primary recognizer causing selection of a selected secondary recognizer based on a determined shape index corresponding to the chirograph; and

the selected secondary recognizer determining a recognition result from the chirograph and returning the recognition result, wherein the returned recognition result is determined by the secondary recognizer independent of the shape index determined by the primary recognizer.
